

Claim Amendments:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-37 (Canceled).

38. (Currently Amended) A ceramic member, comprising:

a ceramic substrate; and

a decal provided on a portion of the substrate as a marker for labeling the substrate, the decal having a different color than that of the substrate and having good edge definition after a heat cycle during which the ceramic member is exposed to a temperature of at least 1100 °C.

39. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal maintains good edge definition after repeated heat cycles.

40. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal has a thickness not less than about 20 microns.

41. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 39, wherein the decal has a thickness not less than about 50 microns.

42. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal has good contrast with the ceramic substrate.

43. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal remains stable, having good adhesion to the ceramic substrate after the heat cycle.

44. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal has clean lines that do not bleed into the ceramic substrate and maintains good contrast with the ceramic substrate.

45. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal is comprised of a fired colored ink.

46. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the ceramic substrate comprises silicon carbide or silicon nitride.

47. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 46, wherein the substrate comprises silicon carbide.

48. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 38, wherein the decal consists essentially of a refractory ceramic composition.

49. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 48, wherein the composition includes unstabilized zirconia and silica.

50. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 49, wherein the unstabilized zirconia and the silica are present at an unstabilized zirconia:silica weight ratio of from 9:1 to 1:1.

51. (Previously Presented) The ceramic member of claim 50, wherein the unstabilized zirconia and the silica are present at an unstabilized zirconia:silica weight ratio of from 4:1 to 2:1.

52. (Currently Amended) A method for labeling a ceramic member, comprising:
applying a decal on a portion of a ceramic substrate as a marker for labeling the substrate;
and thereafter
heat treating the ceramic substrate after applying the decal to a temperature of at least
1100 °C, the decal providing good edge definition after heat treating and having a
different color than the substrate.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal maintains good edge definition after repeated heating cycles to a temperature of at least 1100 °C.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal is applied to the ceramic substrate in an unfired state.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal has a thickness not less than about 20 microns.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the decal has a thickness not less than about 50 microns.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal has good contrast with the ceramic substrate.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal remains stable, having good adhesion to the ceramic substrate after the heat treating.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal has clean lines that do not bleed into the ceramic substrate and maintains good contrast with the ceramic substrate.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal is comprised of a fired colored ink.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the ceramic substrate comprises silicon carbide or silicon nitride.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the substrate comprises silicon carbide.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the decal consists essentially of a refractory ceramic composition.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the composition includes unstabilized zirconia and silica.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the unstabilized zirconia and the silica are present at an unstabilized zirconia:silica weight ratio of from 9:1 to 1:1.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the unstabilized zirconia and the silica are present at an unstabilized zirconia:silica weight ratio of from 4:1 to 2:1.